

GENERAL NOTES.

The Black Skimmer on Long Island, N. Y.— On May 25, 1919, at Long Beach, L. I., three Skimmers were seen flying west. Two were pretty far out, but one was well inshore, though apparently all three birds were together. We were immediately impressed by the sharp black and white colors, forked tail, the remarkably long and slender wings, and the characteristic flight. It is perhaps only proper to add that the senior author was well acquainted with the Skimmer in life, and knows of no other North American bird with which it could reasonably be confused. In late years a rare straggler to Long Island, it is possible that its recent reappearance on the Jersey coast may cause its visits to Long Island to become more frequent. Considering the date, our birds were probably ambitious migrants which had overshot the mark. At least they were seemingly bent on getting home as fast as possible.— LUDLOW GRISCOM AND DR. E. R. P. JANVRIN, *Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., New York City.*

Another Record of the White Pelican in New York.— Eaton, in his 'Birds of New York' (1909) notes only eleven recorded instances of the occurrence of *Pelicanus erythrorhynchos* from the entire State. Recently, in looking over some old personal journals, the writer ran across an entry to the effect that the late Leslie W. Lake of this village saw a White Pelican in Hamburg township during the summer of 1863. Mr. Lake was a keen observer and a very careful field worker; moreover, he was familiar with the species due to a former residence in portions of the West where it is of more common occurrence.

The writer recalls questioning his informant very carefully relative to this identification, and is himself familiar with the bird, having met with it in some numbers in Yellowstone National Park. While it seems unusual that the bird should have been found here during the summer, certainly no error was made in its identification, as Mr. Lake noted at close range the large size, white plumage, long bill and pouch.— THOMAS L. BOURNE, *Hamburg, N. Y.*

A Note on the "Southern Teal."— The leading article in the October number of 'The Auk,' entitled 'Notes on a New Subspecies of Blue-winged Teal,' by my friend, Frederic H. Kennard, held for me more than cursory interest for the reason that I have been studying this supposed form for some time, had corresponded with Mr. Kennard, regarding it, and had held, up to this spring, that it might form a valid subspecies.

I have had in the flying cage in Audubon Park, New Orleans, for the past three years a collection of wild waterfowl obtained on the Louisiana marshes. Among the ducks thus held in captivity was a drake Blue-winged Teal that had the curious white line over the eye as a continuation of the characteristic crescent-shaped white spot, and had on the nape of the neck,